

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 05462 130825Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /068 W

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R 130721Z MAY 77

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4852

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 5462

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, CH, VN

SUBJECT: MORE CRACKS IN SINO-VIETNAMESE SOLIDARITY

1. DURING GENERAL VO NGUYEN GIAP'S MAY 6-7 STOPOVER IN PEKING ENROUTE HOME FROM MOSCOW AND EASTERN EUROPE, THE PRC APPEARS TO HAVE DELIVERED A DELIBERATE SNUB TO THE VIETNAMESE LEADER, ADDING FURTHER EVIDENCE OF PROBLEMS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN PEKING AND HANOI. YANG CHENG-WU, A DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF WHO IS NOT EVEN ON THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, WAS THE HIGHEST RANKING CHINESE HOST PRESENT AT THE AIRPORT AND BANQUET FOR GIAP. BY CONTRAST, WHEN GIAP WAS IN CHINA FOLLOWING AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA AND A STOPOVER IN MOSCOW IN JANUARY 1976, HE HAD TALKS WITH YEH CHIEN-YING, VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY (CCP), VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMISSION OF THE CCP, AND DEFENSE MINISTER, AND WAS FETED BY CHEN HSI-LIEN, POLITBURO MEMBER, VICE-PREMIER, AND COMMANDER OF THE PEKING MILITARY REGION.

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THE CALCULATED LOW-LEVEL TREATMENT FOR GIAP ON HIS CURRENT VISIT REFLECTS CONTINUING CHINESE IRRITATION WITH THE VIETNAMESE, MAINLY DUE TO THE LATTER'S TIES WITH THE SOVIETS. (COMMENT: IRONICALLY, THE VIETNAMESE SEEM TO BE GETTING IT FROM ALL SIDES AT PRESENT. THE SOVIETS ARE ALSO ANGRY WITH THEM BECAUSE OF THEIR TURNING TO THE WEST FOR ECONOMIC

AID. END COMMENT.)

2. ANOTHER INTERESTING FACT GLEANED FROM GIAP'S
STOPOVER IN PEKING WAS THE ABSENCE OF THE VIETNAMESE
AMBASSADOR, NGUYEN TRONG VINH, WHOSE LAST APPEARANCE
WAS REPORTED BY VNA ON APRIL 20 WHEN HE SAW OFF
PREMIER PHAM VAN DONG AT THE PEKING AIRPORT. NCNA
REPORTS CHARGE NGUYEN PHUONG VU AT THE MAY 6 BANQUET
GIVEN FOR GIAP. THE VNA BANQUET REPORT MAKES NO
MENTION OF THE VIETNAMESE CHARGE. NEITHER NEWS AGENCY
REPORTED THE AMBASSADOR'S APPARENT DEPARTURE. HIS
DISAPPEARANCE, HOWEVER, IS NOT SURPRISING SINCE HE
WAS STRIPPED OF HIS RANK AS ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE
VCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE IN THE DECEMBER FOURTH PARTY
CONGRESS ALONG WITH ALL THE FORMER SRV AMBASSADORS
TO PEKING.
CROSS

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